THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PARLIAMENT IN SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh, May 2. 1685.

SInce our laſt, the following Acts have been paſt in the Parliament.

An Act for Security of the Proteſtant Religion.

OUR Sovereign Lord with Conſent of His Eſtates in Parliament conveened, ratifies and confirms all the Acts and Statutes formerly paſt for the Security, Liberty and Freedom of the True Church of God and the Proteſtant Religion preſently profeſſed within this Kingdom in their whole Strength and Tenor, as if they were here particularly ſet down and expreſt.

An Act containing a tender of Duty, and offer of the Exciſe to His Majeſty.

THe Eſtates of Parliament now conveened by His Majeſties Sovereign Authority, taking into their Conſideration how this Nation hath now continued upwards of Two thouſand Years in the unaltered Form of our Monarchichal Government, under the uninterrupted Line of One hundred and eleven Kings, whoſe ſacred Authority and Power have been upon all ſignal occaſions ſo owned and aſſiſted by Almighty God, that our Kingdom hath been protected from Conqueſt, our Poſſeſſions defended from Strangers, our Civil Commotions brought into wiſhed Events, our Laws vigorouſly executed, our Properties legally fixed, and our Lives ſecurely preſerved, ſo that we and our Anceſtors have enjoyed thoſe Securities and Tranquilities, which the greater and more flouriſhing Kingdoms have frequently wanted. Theſe great Bleſſings we owe in the firſt place to Divine Mercy, and in dependance on that, to the ſacred Race of our Glorious Kings, and to the ſolid, abſolute Authority wherewith they were inveſted by the firſt and fundamental Law of our Monarchy; Nor can either our Records or our Experience inſtance our being deprived of thoſe happy Effects, but when a rebellious Party did by Commotions and Seditions invade the Kings Sovereign Authority, which was the cauſe of our Proſperity; Yet ſo far hath our primitive Conſtitution and fundamental Laws prevailed againſt the Innovations and Seditions of turbulent men, as that theſe Interruptions never terminated, but either in the Ruin, or at leaſt the Suppreſſion of thoſe who at any time did rebel, or riſe in oppoſition to our Government. And ſince ſo many Ages have aſſured to us the great Advantages which flow

down

down to all Ranks of People from the happy Conſtitution of our Monarchs, and that all our Calamities have ever ariſen from Seditious Invaſions upon theſe ſacred Rights; Therefore the Eſtates of Parliament, for themſelves, and in name of the whole Kingdom, judge themſelves obliged to declare, and they do declare to the world, that they abhor and deteſt not only the Authors and Actors of all preceding Rebellions againſt the Sovereign; but likewiſe all Principles and Poſitions which are contrary or derogatory to the Kings ſacred, ſupreme, ſovereign, abſolute Power and Authority, which none, whether Perſons or collective Bodies, can participate of any manner of way, or upon any pretext, but in dependence on Him, and by Commiſſion from Him: And as their Duty formerly did bind them to own and aſſert the juſt and legal Succeſſion of the ſacred Line, as unalterable by any humane Juriſdiction; ſo now they lay hold on this occaſion for themſelves and the whole Nation repreſented by them, in moſt humble and dutiful manner, to renew the hearty and ſincere offer of their Lives and Fortunes to aſſiſt, ſupport, defend, and maintain King *James* the Seventh, their preſent Glorious Monarch, and His Heirs and lawful Succeſſors, in the poſſeſſion of their Crowns, Sovereignty, Prerogatives, Authority, Dignity, Rights and Poſſeſſions againſt all Mortals; And therewithal to aſſure all His Enemies, who ſhall adventure on the Diſloyalty of diſobeying His Laws, or on the Impiety of invading His Right, that they ſhall ſooner be weary of their Wickedneſs, than they of their Duty; and that they firmly reſolve to give their intire Obedience to His Majeſty, without reſerve, againſt all His Enemies Foreign or Inteſtine. And they ſolemnly declare, That as they are bound by Law, ſo they are voluntarily and firmly reſolved, that all of this Nation betwixt ſixty and ſixteen, armed and provided according to their abilities, ſhall be in readineſs for His Majeſties Service, where and

as oft as it ſhall be His Royal Pleaſure to require them.

And ſince the Exciſe of Inland and Foreign Comodities granted to King *Charles* the Second of ever bleſſed Memory, by the 14th Act of the Parliament, 1661. during all the days of His life-time, and prorogate by the 8th Act of the Parliament, 1681. for five years thereafter will ſhortly terminate; and the Eſtates of Parliament conſidering the uſefulneſs of this Grant to ſupport the Intereſt of the Crown, do, as the firſt Evidence of their Sincerity in the foreſaid tender of their Duty, humbly and unanimouſly offer to His moſt ſacred Majeſty King *James* the Seventh, their preſent Monarch, and to His lawful Heirs and Succeſſors in the Imperial Crown of *Scotland*, the ſaid Exciſe of Inland and Foreign Commodities expreſt in the ſaid 14th Act of Parliament 1661. to be collected in the manner preſcribed by the ſaid 8th Act of the Parliament 1681. for ever.

And His Majeſty and Eſtates of Parliament, by the force of this Act, have united, annexed, and incorporated, and unites, annexes, and incorporates the ſame to the Crown of this Realm, to remain therewith in annexed property in all time coming; And in reſpect that the alteration in the Method of collecting the Inland Exciſe from what it was by the Act 1661. to that preſcribed by the 8th Act of Parliament 1681. will require ſome time to eſtabliſh it in Collection; Therefore His Majeſty, with Conſent of the Eſtates, continues the Collection preſcribed by the 14th Act of Parliament 1661. of the Inland Exciſe for three months from the firſt of *May* next allenarly.

Act concerning Citations in Proceſſes for Treaſon.

OUR Sovereign Lord, with the Advice and Conſent of the Eſtates of Parliament, do hereby ratifie and approve the former Cuſtom uſed by His Majeſties Commiſſioners of Juſticiary in proceeding againſt Pannels already

ready in Priſon, and indicted for Treaſon upon Twenty four hours; But for the future His Majeſty allows ſuch Pannels to be Cited on Forty eight hours, and if the Pannels repreſent ſuch Defences to the Commiſſioners of Juſticiary within that time as may need an Exculpation, His Majeſty, with the Advice aforeſaid, allows the ſaid Commiſſioners to delay the Tryal till the days elapſe on which the Exculpation is to be raiſed.

Act concerning Witneſſes.

OUR Sovereign Lords and Eſtates of Parliament, do Statute and Ordain, That ſuch as being Cited to be Witneſſes in the Caſes of Treaſon, Field or Houſe-Conventicles or Church-Irregularities, do refuſe to Depone, they ſhall be liable to be puniſhed as guilty of theſe Crimes reſpectively in which they refuſe to be Witneſſes. It is always hereby declared, That the ſaid Depoſition ſo emitted ſhall not militate againſt the Depo nent himſelf any manner of way.

A

PROCLAMATION,

For putting the Kingdom of SCOTLAND in a poſture of Defence againſt the Enemies of the King and Government.

JAMES, *by the Grace of God, King of* Great Britain, France, *and* Ireland, *Defender of the Faith; To Our Lyon King at Arms, and his Brethren Heralds, Macers of Our Privy Council, Purſevants, and Meſſengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, Greeting: Foraſmuch as thoſe Traiterous Conſpirators, who deſigned the Horrid and Sacrilegious Murder of Our Deareſt Brother,*

the

the late King, of Renowned and Eternal Memory, and the Deſtruction of Our antient Monarchy, continuing ſtill in the ſame Helliſh Project and Furie againſt Us, and Our Royal Government; Are now again ſetting their Deſigns on work, to raiſe Commotions in this Our ancient Kingdom, as being the laſt ſtruglings of them, and their Execrable Party, and the utmoſt effects of their abſolute Deſpair: For preventing whereof, and bringing theſe deſperate and execrable Traitors to juſt and condign puniſhment; We, with Advice of Our Privie Council, do hereby ſtrictly Require and Command, all and every of the Subjects of this Our Realm, That they be in a readineſs in their beſt Arms to concur and aſſiſt Us againſt any the aforeſaid Commotions, or Inſurrections, as they ſhall be advertiſed; And particularly, We hereby require and command all and every the Colonels of Our Militia Regiments of Foot, and Captains of Horſe, and the Inferior Officers and Soldiers under their Command, in the Shires reſpective under written, viz. The Merſe, Teviotdale, Peebles, Selkirk, *Eaſt, Mid, and Weſt* Lothians, *Town of* Edinburgh, Sterlingſhire, Fife *and* Kinroſs *Shires; The four Companies of the Low Countrie, of the Earl of* Perth *Our Chancellors Regiment; and the three Companies of the Low Countrie, of the Marqueſs of* Athol, *Lord Privie Seal, his Regiment; The Sheriffs of* Forfar *and* Kincardin; *and all the Heretors, Liferenters, Fenars and Wodſetters in the Shires of* Air, Renfrew, Clidſdale, Wigtoun, Dumfreis, *and Stewartries and Bailliaries within the ſame, to be in readineſs with fourteen days Proviſion, to march when, and whither Our Privy Council ſhall give them Orders; And to that end, to have their Arms fixed, and their ſeveral Companies of Our Militia, preſently Muſtered, and the Heretors and others aforeſaid, Liſted, Modelled in Companies, and Muſtered for the putting them in a condition of a greater readineſs. And further, We hereby require and command all Perſons, Fenſible-men, betwixt ſixty and ſixteen, within the Shires of* Aberdeene, Bamff, Elgin, Nairn, Inverneſs,

Roſs, Sutherland, and Caithneſs, to be in readineſs in manner foreſaid. As likewiſe, We hereby require and command all Our Liedges on the Sea-coaſts of this Kingdom, or near to them, or to any of the Iſlands thereunto belonging, ſo ſoon as they hear, or get notice of any Veſſels arriving at any place from abroad, or at home into any Coaſts, Ports, Creiks, or Harbours, with Men, Arms, or Ammunition, forthwith to Convocat, and riſe in their beſt Arms, and to beat them off, or ſeize upon, and ſecure the Ships or Veſſels, and the Men, Arms and Ammunition, and give immediate Advertiſement to Our Privie Council; And for their Security in obeying theſe Our Royal Commands, We hereby fully pardon and indemnifie them for ever, of all Slaughter, Blood, Mutilation, Fire-raiſing, burning of Ships, or ſuch like Warlike Inconveniencies as may follow, in caſe they meet with Hoſtile Oppoſition; And We hereby require and command all Our Collectors, Cuſtomers, or Waiters, to make ſtrict and diligent ſearch and inquiry in all Ships, arriving in any part of this Kingdom, for Traitors, Rebels, Fugitives, or Diſaffected Perſons, and for Arms, and Ammunition, and to ſeize upon the Ships, Men, Arms, and Ammunition, until they acquaint Our Privy Council, and receive their Directions thereanent: And to the effect they may the better be able to perform this Service, We do require all Our Subjects neareſt to them, as they ſhall be by them advertiſed to Riſe, Concur with, Fortifie and Aſſiſt them, who, and theſe ſo aſſiſting, are hereby declared to be fully indemnified in manner foreſaid. And that all the perſons aforeſaid may know their hazard if they fail in any of the Premiſes. We hereby declare, That they ſhall not only incur Our high Diſpleaſure, but alſo ſhall be puniſhed with the outmoſt of ſeverity, conform to their Demerit, and the Laws and Practices of this Kingdom, and that the Heretors which ſhall be deficient in ſending out their Tennets, and other Penſible men, or ſhall not give Advertiſement as ſaid is, and of any Rebels and Traitors appearing on their Lands,

that

that they ſhall be puniſhed accordingly. And to the end the ſaid deſperate Traitors and Rebels may have no Reſet, Harbour, Comfort or Refuge from any of the Subjects of this Our Realm, We hereby ſtrictly prohibit and diſcharge all and every of Our Subjects therein to furniſh, Houſe, Meat, Drink, or any other thing comfortable to them, or to keep Intelligence, or Correſpondence with them, by Word, Writ, or Meſſage, or to tranſport them to, or from Ferries, or any ways to be aiding, abating or aſſiſting to them, under the pain of being Repute and eſteemed Art and Part with them all in their wicked Deeds and Practices, and proceeded againſt, demeaned and puniſhed accordingly: And that Our Pleaſure in the Premiſes may be fully known to all Our Leidges, OUR WILL is, and We charge you ſtrictly and command, that incontinent theſe Our Letters ſeen, ye paſs to the Mercat Croſs of Edinburgh, *and all the other Mercat Croſſes of the Head-Burghs of the Shires of this Kingdom (and all places elſe needful) and there by open Proclamation, in Our Name and Authority, make publication of Our Royal Will and Pleaſure in the Premiſes, that none pretend Ignorance.*

Given under Our Signet at *Haly rude-Houſe*, the 28th. day of *April* 1685. And of Our Reign the Firſt Year.

Per Actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.
WILLIAM PATERSON *Cl. Sti. Concilii.*
GOD Save the KING.

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